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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Prevailing Wage Law Now in Effect, Payroll Reports Due This Week

Report of temporary suspension inaccurate; contractors must comply with state law

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Legal Counsel Howard Bernstein said today contractors involved in public works projects are required to file certified payroll reports this week under changes in the state prevailing wage law.

Reports that the requirements have been temporarily suspended are inaccurate. DWD does not have authority to suspend the requirements. The reporting requirements are set by state statute, and contractors are to comply with the requirements, Bernstein said.

The new prevailing wage law provisions were approved by the Legislature last summer as part of the state budget and they took effect January 1, 2010. They apply to contractors involved in public works projects and publicly-funded private projects.

Certified payroll reports must be filed electronically with DWD. The first report on work performed in January is due by Feb. 7. At the end of each month, the reports must be sent to DWD within seven days.

For more information, employers are encouraged to visit DWD's website, http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/prevailing_wage_rate/default.htm. For further assistance, they are urged to contact the Equal Rights Division at 608-266-6861.